on withdrawing that atmoſphere will any air ruſh in, as I have found by a very curious experiment, accurately made, whence we concluded that the air's elaſticity was not affected thereby.

An Experiment towards diſcovering more of the Qualities of the Electric Fluid.

From the prime conductor, hang a bullet by a wire hook; under the bullet at half an inch diſtance, place a bright piece of ſilver to receive the ſparks; then let the wheel be turned, and in a few minutes (if the repeated ſparks continually ſtrike in the ſame ſpot) the ſilver will receive a blue ſtain near the colour of a watch ſpring.

A bright piece of iron will alſo be ſpotted, but not with that colour; it rather ſeems to be corroded.

On gold, braſs, or tin, I have not perceived that it makes any impreſſion. But the ſpots on the ſilver or iron will be the ſame, whether the bullet be lead, braſs, gold, or ſilver.

On a ſilver bullet, there will alſo appear a ſmall ſpot, as well as on the plate below it.

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LETTER VII.

FROM

Mr E. Kinnersley, at *Boſton*,

TO

Benj. Franklin, Eſq; at *Philadelphia*.

SIR, *Feb* 3, 1752.

I Have the following experiments to communicate: I held in one hand a wire, which was faſten'd at the other end to the handle of a pump, in order to try whether the ſtroke from the prime conductor, through my arms, would be any greater, than when convey'd only to the ſurface of the earth, but could diſcover no difference.

I placed the needle of a compaſs on the point of a long pin, and holding it in the atmoſphere of the prime conductor, at the diſtance of about three inches, found it to whirl round, like the flyers of a jack, with great rapidity.

I ſuſpended with ſilk, a cork ball, about the bigneſs of a pea, and preſented to it, rubbed amber, ſealing wax, and ſulphur, by each of which it was ſtrongly repelled;

O 2 then

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